Words to meet by . . .

Balance Trust Participate Share
Listener Cooperation
Viewpoint Vision Open-minded Respect Friendly

Personal Open-minded Respect Friendly

Future Solutions

# **Iverson Preserve Stakeholder Integration Project**



Presenters:
Lori Clark, IC DNR Manager
Dawn Pucci, Lead Entity Coordinator
Island County Department of Natural Resources





■ What does Iverson mean to you?



### Answers from participants

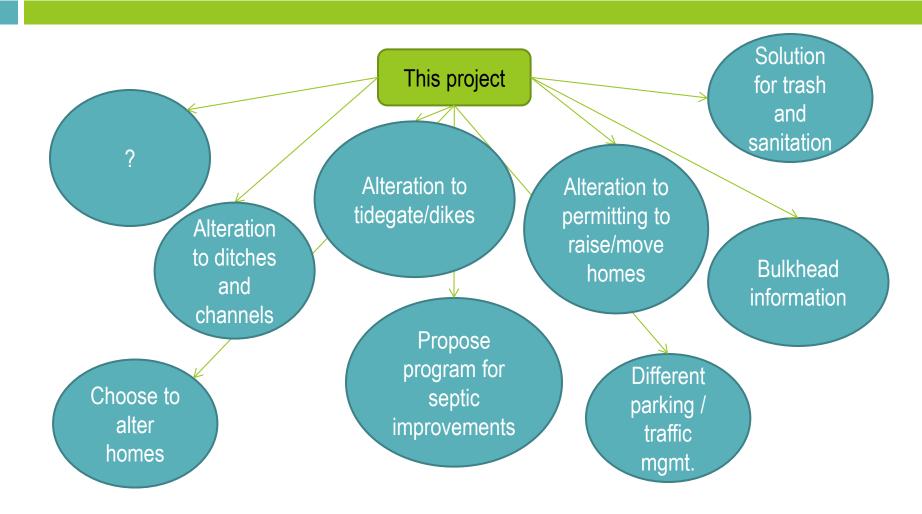
- Recreation
- Legacy
- Birding
- Home
- Beach
- Multi-generation
- Property owner
- Summer getaway
- Fragile water system

- Public park
- Private beach
- □ Pt. Susan
- Families
- Wildlife
- Family investment
- Dirty water
- Warm water
- Peace and quiet

# Community Meeting Expectations

- This meeting is for information sharing only –no decisions will be made today.
- Keep in mind that:
  - Looking for possible solutions to drainage problems at Iverson is a goal we all share.
  - □ There will be differences of opinion
- How to keep an open dialog:
  - Share the talk time
  - Really listen to your fellow speakers
  - Share your unique perspective
  - Respect every viewpoint
  - Be positive and open to new ideas
  - Participate-every voice should be heard
  - Stay focused on the key meeting issues

### Example of Possible Outcomes



#### Start with WHY

- Iverson Preserve has significant drainage issues.
- Sea Level Rise projections show a significant threat
- Tidegate is scheduled to be assessed to address drainage issues.

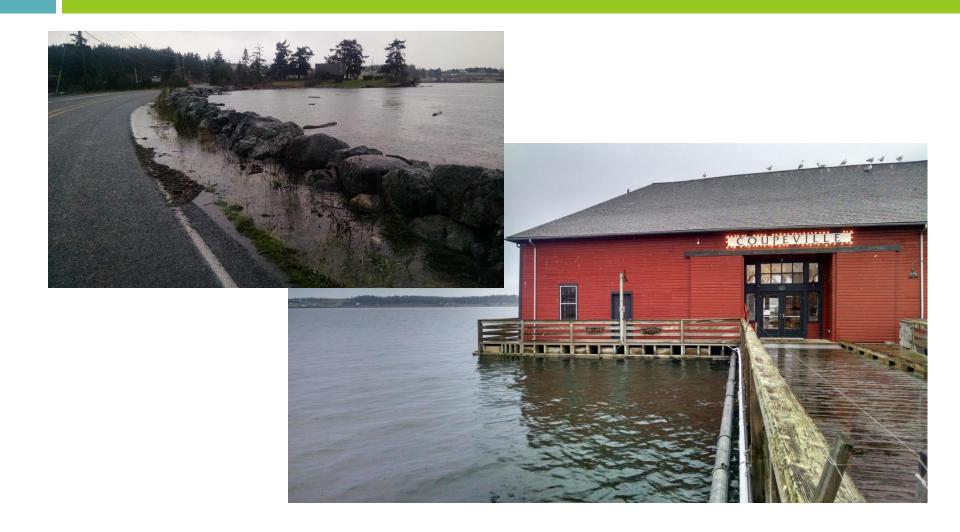


# What we are seeing





# What we are seeing



#### **NOAA** Projections

(NOAA's Sea Level Rise/Coastal Flooding Impacts Viewer)

MHHW now

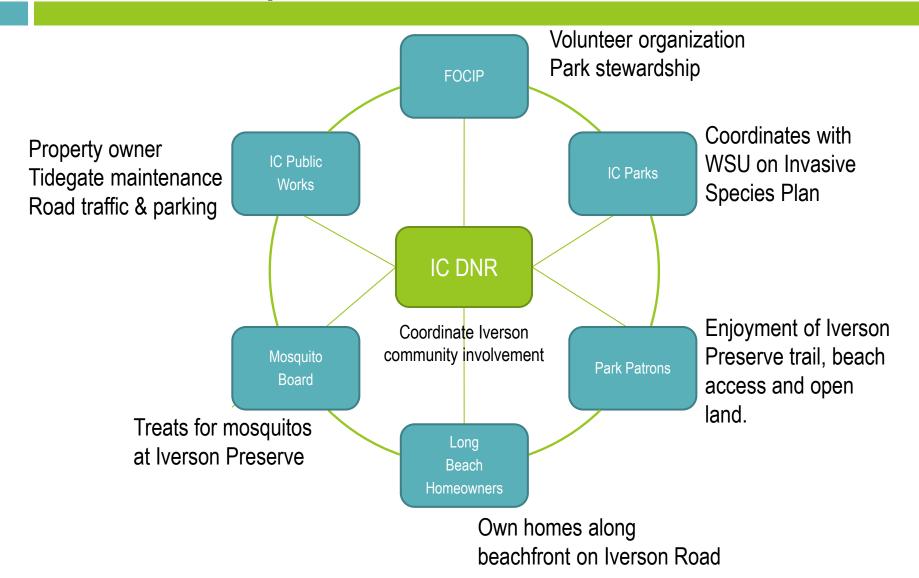
(based on current elevations of land)



+ 24"

NOAA: avg. rise 24" along coast by 2100 But what about in Puget Sound?

### Partnerships



#### **Shared Concerns**

#### **Island County Concerns:**

- Flooding
- On-Site Septics
- Tidegate assessment
- Access to trails and beach
- Increasing tide levels & storm surge
- Habitat

#### Citizen Concerns:

- Risk to homes, septics, property values
- Allergens & farming practices
- Road traffic & parking
- Mosquitoes
- Recreation (beach/trail) access

Please feel free to use the note pads if you prefer to comment that way rather than speaking.

# Meeting Times:

- Today: Kickoff, inform, brainstorm
- Future: Opportunities to learn and participate
  - Summer
  - Fall
- □ Task Force
- Call-in/WebEx options always available

### Study/Discussion Considerations:

#### Studies

- □ Flood Study to Determine Alternatives for Restoration and Enhancement of Marsh Habitat and Shoreline Processes, *Phil Williams & Associates (2001)* 
  - Additional studies needed
  - Alternatives persevere 100 year flood protection behind homes
- Iverson Farm Restoration Feasibility Study, Sheldon & Associates (2001)
- Iverson Preserve Site Management Plan, for the Iverson Farm Property on Camano Island, Northwest Ecological Services, EccosDesign and Shelterbelt (2011)
  - Based on 2001 studies (new synthesis, but no new data)
- Since 2011
  - Sea level rise estimates have been revised
  - Need to look at changes in land height, presence of water, and tide gate function.
  - Consider invasive species
- Prior Public Feedback
- See website for historic reports: http://www.islandcountyeh.org/Projects/1312.

#### Outcomes

- Present Need
  - Island County must assess tidegate
  - Options for flood management must be considered
- Project Outcomes
  - Hydrology/storm surge risk assessment
  - Salt water intrusion assessment
- Opportunity
  - Community can be part of the planning process
  - Homeowner and park user concerns can be considered

# Flooding

- Project will not increase flood risk to Long Beach Community
- Project will determine best course of action:
  - Future tidegate maintenance
  - Other cost appropriate actions that address water, homes, park and habitat concerns.
- Original project concept was to address inundation potential











#### Notification of construction work

- This project will result in a report, not construction:
  - You will help write this report
  - Report may not recommend construction
  - □ If construction is recommended the earliest possible action is 2-5 years
- If construction is recommended:
  - All projects require public notification & public comment period (Island County Code 16.17.140).
  - Island County Public Works will follow notification requirements
  - See: https://www.islandcounty.net/planning/PublicNotices.htm.

#### Consensus Process

- We are here to include you in the process of considering options for improving Iverson Preserve drainage issues.
- Participants:
  - Public (homeowners, park users)
  - Local community groups
  - Island County
- Recommendations
  - Result from a consensus process
  - Final recommendations move forward to Island County Commissioners

#### Positive feedback:

- "We'd like to thank the County for seeking our input prior to proposing anything. It's nice to be asked for our thoughts."
- "Why not have these discussions? If we can get some of our issues resolved and the solutions also happen to help the environment and fish, then it's a win-win."



#### BREAK

6 6 Coming together is the beginning.

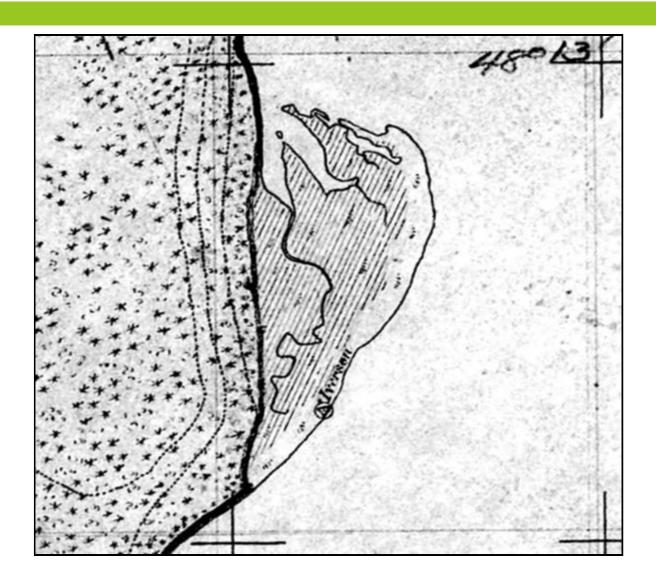
Keeping together is progress.

Working together...
is success.

~Henry Ford

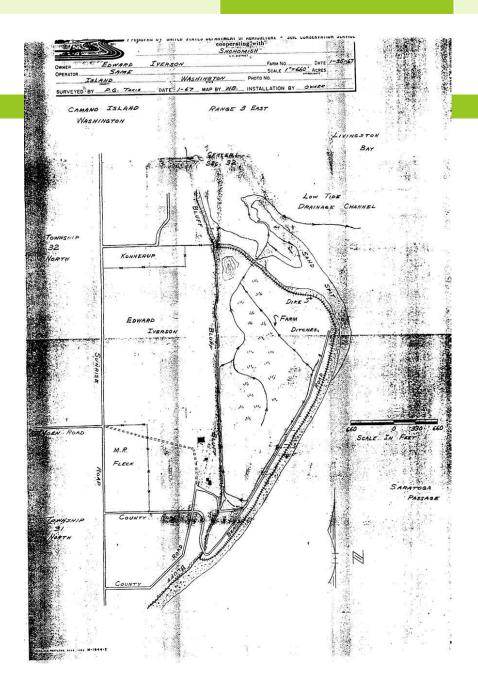
# How we got here

And where we came from....



- 1940s Dike, dredging and tidegate
- 1960s Drainage tiles potentially installed
- 1970s or 80s Tidegate upgraded to fiberglass
- 1980s Draintiles installed
- 1999 County purchase
- □ 2000s Dike repaired





 2001 – "Iverson Farm Restoration Feasibility Study" & Flood Study

 2009 – Restoration Feasibility & Outreach proposed, not funded

2011 – Iverson Preserve Management Plan

- 2013 Iverson was confirmed as one of the highest potential restoration sites (Dugualla, Livingston, Maxwelton)
- □ 2014 several things happened in parallel:
  - IC DNR saw presentations on climate resiliency & visionary communities
  - IC DNR was asked for input on issues raised to the Commissioners
  - Invasive Species Mgmt. Plan raised the Iverson conversation
  - Iverson tidegate maintenance schedule was discussed
  - IC DNR saw presentations on incorporating stakeholders in decisions
  - ILIO identified inundation of pocket estuaries as high priority

- 2014 Stakeholder Integration Project proposed, not funded
  - Met with 2 small groups to notify them of the proposal
  - Planned to meet with all stakeholders once funded
- 2015 Stakeholder Integration Project proposed, second try, funded
  - Met with small groups to notify them of the proposal
  - Met with County employees
  - Met with Friends of Camano Island Parks (FOCIP)

- □ 2015 several things happened in parallel:
  - DNR saw presentations on storm surge and sea level rise effects on Pt Townsend
  - DNR saw several presentations on change in big rivers due to climate change (including increased movement of sediment.) Thought of Iverson being directly across from the Stilly that has had big slides and lots sediment to move
  - Commissioners have received concerns from homeowners regarding use of agricultural land, this project & increased risk to homes

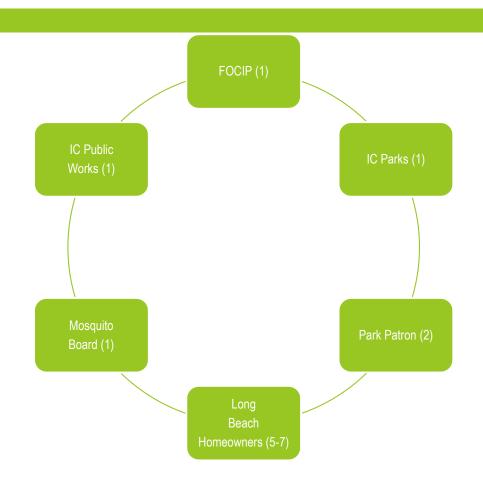
Leading to higher concerns about water levels and resiliency planning for low lying communities

# Next Steps

Where we are going from here...

#### Now what?

 Establish task force (8-10) to evaluate new & existing information & brainstorm creative solutions to drainage & flooding issues.



### Iverson Community contribution

#### **Contributing by:**

- Participate on task force with monthly meetings
- Document review for meetings
- Correspondence outside of meetings
- Brainstorm forward-looking solutions

#### Impact:

- Your ideas and opinions will be heard by those making decisions on the park
- Your ideas can be the catalyst for new programs or ways of doing business at the County
- You will affect the way the County works towards building resiliency for coastal communities
- You will have information you need to prepare your homes and property investments

# Next steps

#### **Studies**

- Determine what info is needed
- Contract to get studies done
- Learn from experts and other examples

#### Solutions

- Discuss studies' results
- Discuss other examples
- Draft ideas of our own

#### Proposal

- Develop proposal of solutions
- Recommend next steps
- Review final report

Spring 2016 Summer 2016 Fall 2016

#### Communication:

- Consistent & transparent communication
  - Website: <a href="http://www.islandcountyeh.org/Projects/1312">http://www.islandcountyeh.org/Projects/1312</a>
  - Email list (please sign up!)
  - May include newspaper articles
  - Large community meeting at end of project to show off results and hard work
  - Use the notepads here to submit concerns and ideas
  - You can call us or email us at any time!

### Questions/ Concerns:

#### Contacts:

Lori Clark, Manager
 Island County Department of Natural Resources
 I.clark@co.island.wa.us
 360-679-7352

Dawn Pucci, Lead Entity Coordinator
 Island County Department of Natural Resources
 <u>d.pucci@co.island.wa.us</u>

360-679-7916

Brian Wood, Watershed Planner<u>b.wood@co.island.wa.us</u>

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### THANK YOU

